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Thursday, April 1, 1976

Ottawa, Canada

Volume Nine, No.7

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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

(The National Voice of Indo-Canadians)

Established in 1967

Crack down on political violence

New Delhi: The Government announced a stepped-up drive against political violence.

The campaign, the first of its kind to be announced since emergency last year, reflects growing official concern over activities of various militant groups that have plagued parts of the country for nearly a decade.

In another action, the government announced that 13 federal employees whose positions were not specified had been dismissed for what was described as subversive activities.

The Government said extremists were operating in pockets in six of India's 22 states - Punjab, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal along the northern tier of the country and Kerala and Andhra Pradesh in the south.

The statement did not name the extremist groups, but some of the states mentioned - particularly West Bengal, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh - have been centres for militant Communist guerrillas. (AP)

Madhu Limaye quits

New Delhi, Mar 29 (UNI): Socialist Party leader Madhu Limaye has resigned his membership of the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament).

Mr. Limaye was elected to the Lok Sabha from the Banka constituency in Bihar.

The Speaker also informed the House that he had received a communication from the District Magistrate of Monghyr saying that Ram Avatar Shastri of the Communist Party of India (CPI) had been arrested under the Defence of India Rule (DIR) in connection with a public meeting Mr. Shastri was to address.

Meanwhile, the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) refused to grant further leave of absence to Subramaniam Swamy, a Jana Sangh member from Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Swamy, who is now abroad, had sought leave of absence for the entire current session.

Kerala assembly term extended

New Delhi, Mar 31(UNI): The Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) passed a Bill extending the life of the Kerala Assembly for a further period of six months after April 21.

Minister of State for Law Seyid Mohammed, who piloted the Bill, told the House that the duration of the Lok Sabha (Lower House Of Parliament) had also been extended for a year.

He expressed the hope that many developmental activities would be undertaken by the Kerala Government during the extended period.

Viswanatha Menon (Communist Party of India-Marxist), who opposed the Bill, said the present ruling parties in Kerala would lose if an election was held.

The Bill received support from Indra Deep Singh (Communist Party of India) who described the Kerala Ministry as a model one. It had completed its full term despite a very slender majority because of its policies and programmes, he said.

No hurry in Gujarat

New Delhi, Mar 26(UNI): Union Deputy Home Minister F.H. Mohsin told the Rajya Sabha that the Congress would take the initiative in Gujarat only if it was sure to install a stable Government there with the help of like-minded parties.

Gujarat is now under president's rule following the resignation of the Janata Front Ministry led by Opposition leader Babubhai Patel on March 12.

Replying to a discussion on the Gujarat State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1976, which was later approved by the House, Mr. Mohsin repeatedly assured the members that the Congress was not in a hurry to form a Government there.

Compulsion in family planning

Punjab

Chandigarh, Mar 30(UNI): The Punjab cabinet has approved a Bill seeking to make having more than two children a cognisable offence.

Entitled "The Punjab Population Control Bill, 1976", it is being sent to the Central Government for approval and will be enforced through an ordinance if early enactment through the State Assembly is not found feasible.

The Bill provided for an imprisonment of up to Rs 2,000 for the first offence and up to three years and a fine of up to Rs 5,000 for the subsequent offence. Both husband and wife would be liable to be jailed.

The Minister Balbir Singh said the Bill did not, however, cover couples who had either two male or two female or handicapped children. The offence would not also be punishable if either parent underwent sterilisation after the third child. Offences under this Bill would be tried by first class magistrates.

Abortion rises

New Delhi, March 21 (UNI): About 290,000 pregnancies have been terminated in India till December 1975, since the enactment of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act in April 1972.

Maharashtra with 60,053 cases topped the list followed by Uttar Pradesh with 38,659, Tamil Nadu 35,987, West Bengal 28,923 and Kerala 27,554.

This information was given in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) in reply to a question.

Haryana

Chandigarh, March 29 (UNI): The Haryana State cabinet approved a draft bill restricting a couple to have only two children in a bid to achieve a zero population growth rate in the State.

However, a couple having two daughters would be allowed to try their luck for a male child, Chief Minister B. D. Gupta told newsmen after a cabinet meeting.

He said those who will violate the measures would be fined Rs. 2,000 and subject to compulsory sterilization.

No change in democracy

New Delhi, April 1(UNI): Union Law Minister H.R. Gokhale has said that India is not going to change the system of parliamentary democracy, "though the proposed changes in the Constitution may not be minor."

During an exchange of views with a Soviet law delegation, Mr. Gokhale said that the objective of the proposed constitutional changes was to ensure that the desired social and economic advance of the people was not stalled.

No spares for Egypt

New Delhi, Mar 28 (UNI): India has conveyed to Egypt its inability to supply spare parts for Soviet-made Mig-21 jet fighters and it hopes that Egypt fully understands India's position and the reasons for this.

Maharashtra

Bombay, March 28 (UNI): Those who suffer from hereditary and communicable diseases in Maharashtra will be compulsorily sterilized, Chief Minister S. B. Chavan told the State Assembly.

He said the sterilization program would be launched immediately as the Government did not wait for such persons to have children.

Earlier, Minister of State for Public Health Leon D'Souza said the proposal was part of a comprehensive program to make family planning compulsory in the state.

Indira not to step down

New Delhi, Mar 28 (UNI): Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said here that she had thought of stepping down from office "when things were going well" but decided against it in the wake of the sudden economic crisis.

"I am certainly not going to leave, with the opposition behaving as they do," she told the Swedish Television in an interview.

The interviewer had asked her whether she had ever thought of stepping down.

The Prime Minister said: "Well you cannot leave a job half finished. You are not just sitting in a chair for the fun or comfort of it. It is not a comfortable chair. You are doing an extremely difficult job. You are facing enormous challenges. And you cannot just throw up the sponge at a difficult moment."

The Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi Addressing the Chief Ministers' Conference in New Delhi.

Better deal for consumers

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The strong and swift measures taken by the Government since the declaration of Emergency on the price front have brought about a sea change in favour of the consumer.

Usually a couple of weeks before the budget is presented before the parliament, the consumer finds the shopkeepers advising him to buy this or that before the budget is announced lest he might have to pay more because of higher imposts. The forecast on budget has always been about an upward trend in governmental levies. Whether the forecast comes true or not, there used to be brisk business in selected consumer goods, particularly those items considered to be luxury items.

As a contrast this year, the consumer is being tempted to buy now with incentives with the promise that any reduction in excise duty in the coming budget would be paid back. Besides cash discount, the consumer gets today free automatic voltage stabilier as well as a stand, or other gifts and interest-free instalments for making payments, particularly for buying refrigerators, T.V. sets, airconditioners etc.

The consumer movement has received an impetus compelling enough towards formation of consumer protection committees by consumers themselves. The community of consumers compriso every section of the society, whether trader, manufacturers or professional.

During 1975-76, sales by cooperatives in urban areas are expected to be of the order of Rs. 5000 million. During 1974-75 the sales of cooperatives was about Rs. 3600 million.

In rural areas, about 2800 villages societies and 1530 marketing cooperatives are today distributing consumer articles. These cooperatives are managing about 46000 fair prices shops. In all they distributed goods worth about Rs. 2500 million in 1973-74.

In order to directly help the labour, separate Consumer Cooperatives have been organized among industrial plantation and mine workers and Railway and Post and Telegraph employees. It is estimated that about 3,600 establishments having more than 300 employees have set up their own consumer stores. And the Railways have over 400 Consumer Cooperatives for the benefit of their employees.

Fourteen States consumer cooperatives federations, with the national cooperatives consumers' federation as its apex organization constitute the central coordinating agency for the distribution of about 90 per cent of controlled cloth through cooperative and other public service agencies.

Action has already been taken to open new department stores in all major cities and towns having population of 3.5 million and more, all states capitals headquarters of union territory administration and areas having concentrated population of industrial, mining or plantation establishments and government employees, apart from cities and towns covered under the consumer price index.

It is proposed to give preference in the national permit scheme to cooperatives of goods operators, educated unemployed and ex-army personnel. With the full operation of the national permit scheme prices of different commodities will be further rationalized at an all India level, because they could be moved fast from centres of production to centres of consumption, providing further relief to the consumers.

A.R. Gupta of Bata India was the recipient of the Marketing Man of the Year Gold Medal at the 5th World Congress on Marketing held in Delhi.

World Bank credit to India

New Delhi, (UNI):
The International Development Association (IDA), an affiliate of the World Bank, has granted India a credit of $200 million for industrial imports.

The credit will enable some 800 medium and large scale enterprises to maintain and expand production and exports, says a press release from the World Bank resident representative's office here.

Steel exports

New Delhi, Mar 30(UNI): India has so far booked export orders for two million tonnes of steel worth Rs 2,850 million, steel Minister Chandrajit Yadav told the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament)

India is exporting steel to 30 countries, most of them West Asian nations.

FREE FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA for only less than two months. We expect to publish several articles and news items that will be of special interest to new immigrants.

Therefore if you are a recent arrival in North America on an immigrant visa fill in the following coupon and send it to us.

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France for zone of peace

New Delhi, (UNI):
France fully supports India's policy of keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace free from super naval power rivalry, Gen. G. Etchverry, Chief of the French national Defence Institute, said here.

Gen. Etchverry, who is leading a high-power 75-member French military delegation on a study tour, told a news conference that he had come here to study India's military training programs and to seek India's views on the strategy in the Indian Ocean.

He said after his talks with Chairman of the Policy Planning Committee, G. Parthasarathy, he was fully convinced that France and India were pursuing identical foreign policies which were "completely independent of the super powers."

Focus on S.E.Asia

New Delhi, (UNI):
External Affairs Minister, Y. B. Chavan said here that the major plans of India's foreign policy was a "multifaceted bilateralism" with South East Asian countries in the political and economic fields.

The countries of the region were now convinced that greater economic cooperation would lay the foundation for a stable political set up.

Addressing the Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to his ministry, Mr. Chavan said this was a very positive approach for diversification of India's relations with the South East Asian countries.

He said India's intention was to hold "in-depth" discussions with South East Countries and chart out new measures to delink their destinies from the pressure groups who were trying to carve out areas of influence and dominance.

Bitumen exports

Madras, (UNI):
Kuwait, one of the largest exporters of crude oil, now imports bitumen, a petroleum product, from India.

The public sector Indian Oil has started exporting bitumen to Kuwait which has embarked upon an ambitious road building program.

The first shipment of about 8,000 tonnes of bitumen valued at about $30,000 was exported in January. The shipment of another 10,000 tonnes valued at about $1 million is being loaded at Bombay and is due to sail shortly, says an Indian Oil press release.

Dowry vs. civil service

Jaipur, (UNI): The Rajasthan Government has decided to bar entry of dowry recipients into Government service.

An official spokesman said that married candidates, while entering Government service would have to declare that they had not taken dowry in their marriage. Disciplinary action will be taken against those who make a false declaration. Action will also be taken against Government servants if they accept dowry in the marriage of their sons, the spokesman added.

Trade deficit doubles

New Delhi, (UNI):
India's foreign trade deficit had almost doubled during the first eight months of this financial year compared with the corresponding period last year.

According to an official press release, the deficit for April-November, 1975 was Rs 10,967 million compared to Rs. 4,497 million during the same period last year.

The latest provisional data for exports (including re-exports) for November, 1975 were placed at Rs. 3,340 million, showing an increase of 19.8 per cent over the exports of Rs. 2,790 million in the corresponding month the previous year.

The imports during the month at a total of Rs. 4,860 million were higher by 46.6 per cent as against imports of Rs. 3,320 million in November 1974.

Political detinues freed

New Delhi, (UNI):
Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told a group of American agricultural leaders here that "a lot of people" arrested when India was placed under a state of internal emergency on June 26 had been released.

She also told the leaders, who called on at her residence, that there was no pre-censorship of the Press now in India.

The Prime Minister likened the proclamation of emergency to "shock treatment to a patient who we thought was sinking."

She recalled the events leading to the imposition of emergency and said that after the global financial crisis, opposition parties and certain industrial groups in the country thought it a suitable moment to launch an agitation.

TV to be separate

New Delhi, (UNI):
The television network in india is to be separated from the All India Radio and brought under a Director-General from April 1, it was officially announced here.

The new set-up will be known as Doordarshan - Television India (TVI).

The new Director-General will be responsible for the operation and administration of television services and its personnel, implementation and program policy.

NORTH KOREA DENIES ARMS DEAL WITH PAKISTAN

New Delhi, Mar 25 (UNI): North Korea has emphatically denied that it had sold any Soviet-made weapons or aircraft to Pakistan clandestinely.

Cotton for export

New Delhi, (UNI):
India has emerged as a cotton exporting country by exporting 200,000 bales of long staple cotton to far eastern countries. Formerly, India had been importing this variety of cotton from Egypt, Sudan and the United States.

India's present cotton imports are confined to a small quantity of medium staple cotton from Pakistan, Sudan and Egypt and it could be completely stopped from the next financial year, official sources said here.

RADIO LINK WITH INTERPOL

New Delhi, (UNI): The national radio station at New Delhi has linked up with the Interpol radio networks at Paris and Tokyo.

This station, which is a part of the inter-state police wireless will enable the police forces in the country to communizate promptly with the police forces in 55 other countries for quick exchange of information about international crime and criminals.

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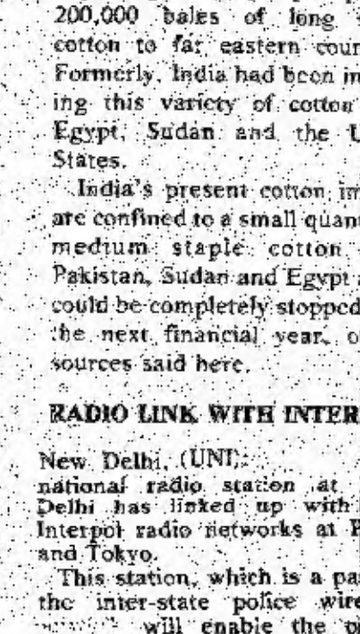

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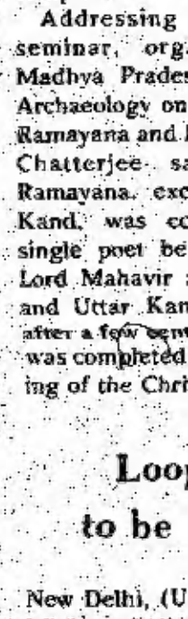

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BUDGET

India's Finance Minister C. Subramaniam in his latest budget has reduced the rate of income tax, slashed excise [illegible] on a wide range of consumer goods, lowered the rates of wealth tax and provided incentives for the Corporate Sector.

All these measures are very welcome and would lead to the [illegible] economic health of the Indian nation. The very high rates of income and wealth taxes in the past have been partly [illegible] in the development of a par[illegible] money economy in India. It was also a [illegible] for those who believed in work, much more in hard work.

Similarly reduction in excise duties will lower the prices of many consumer items, increase their production thereby creating more employment and higher levels of income which can be spent on more consumer goods.

The incentives provided for the corporate sector are also long overdue. In a mixed economy such as that of India a [illegible] private sector is very essential to the growth of the economy. These measures, and hopefully more similar measures to come along the same lines later, will go a long way in assuring a strong rate of economic growth for the country.

We congratulate Mr. Sub[illegible] for his imagination as well as practical attitude in formulating the budget.

Godse to sue

by our correspondent

New Delhi: Gopal Godse, brother of Nathuram Godse, assassin of Mahatma Gandhi, would sue the authors of the book "Freedom at Midnight" for their "slanderous and malicious" statements credited to him in the book, says a report from Pune.

The book co-authored by Dominique Lapierre and Larry Collins has already become a subject of controversy in India. Several leaders who were associated with India's struggle have questioned the authenticity of many statements in the book which they say were deliberately introduced for the purpose of sensationalism.

Mr. Lapierre is reported to have referred in an interview to newspapers here some time ago to a "sordid fact of unnatural relationship between Veer Savarkar and Nathuram." He claimed that the information about the relationship was given to him by Gopal Godse.

Mr. Godse has challenged the authors to produce evidence, written or tape-recorded, to substantiate their version which was altogether false, defamatory and malicious. They wanted to cash in on sensationalism to ensure wide publicity for their book. The remark by the authors that Nathu Ram Godse was a woman-hater was their own "invention", he said.

Mr. Godse had undergone life imprisonment for his part in the alleged conspiracy to kill Mahatma Gandhi.

CBI in dynamite probe

New Delhi, Mar 28 (UNI): Union Home Minister K. Brahamananda Reddy said in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) that he did not rule out the possibility of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) taking over the investigation of the reported discovery of dynamites in Baroda.

Replying to a calling-attention motion, raised by Bhupesh Gupta (Communist Party of India), Mr. Reddy said the question whether the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had a hand in the case would also be looked into during the investigation. The CBI was at present assisting the local authorities in the investigation.

Reorganization of medical services

New Delhi, March 29 (UNI): Prime Minister Indira Gandhi disclosed her Government's plans to reorganize the medical services on a three-tier basis for the development of a community-based rather than hospital-based medical care.

Rural public health and medical cadres, consulting clinics at taluka centres and district towns and advanced hospitals and institutions for treatment by specialists would constitute the three-tier system, Mrs. Gandhi said while speaking at a function organized to celebrate the diamond jubilee of the Lady Hardinge Medical College here.

Letters

Indira's India

A great deal of critical material has been written in the western press about Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's emergency program, instituted June, 1975. May I have the privilege of giving a few comments from observations and discussions of the past month's visit to this vast country-a country that has increased its life expectancy in the last two decades from 32 to 50? By so doing, though they have increased their population 58 per cent.

Everywhere one travels through the land, there are signs directing messages to the Indian citizen- "Discipline has improved our economy." "Work more, talk less." "Produce more for prosperity." "There is no substitute for hard work." "Rumor-mongers are nations enemies." "We march to a better tomorrow." "Economic offences bring stern punishment", and so on.

On my previous five visits to India, I thoroughly enjoyed reading their newspapers. I devoured the editorials of the Indian Times and can boast a file of clippings from this newspaper and others. It is somehow so different this time. I cannot get enthused. The news(particularly national) all seems so rigged. It has saddened me.

Rationing has been instituted for many years to see that the very poorest were able to get food at a low price. About 14 per cent of the nation uses the ration shop for grain, wheat, rice and sugar. Many will buy on the open market because the quality is superior.

Many poor people too had trouble getting ration cards because they could not pay bribes to officials. Others could not obtain grain because the ration shop owner said there was none, while keeping it for those who would bribe him. The stocks of the ration shop are sometimes bare from bad crops and not cheating.

The emergency has forced dealers to declare publicly their stocks or go to jail. This has stopped all kinds of hoarding and has forced prices down in a very dramatic manner, at least 35 per cent as far as rice is concerned. Sugar is still high as they export a great deal. Furthermore, everyone has a ration card due to the emergency. Ration prices are 20 per cent to 30 per cent less than market prices except for quality rice, where the difference is almost double. The emergency has also granted more grain through the ration shops-each adult one quarter kilogram of rice per day and 500 grams of Chini sugar-each child is given bout half that ration. This has been increased by 20 per cent, but it is importanat to know that since the emergency, the cost of staple food grains and oils has dropped considerabley. There is still cheating regarding the distribution of quality rations, but many people have been arrested.

Adulteration of food was common and many people have been blinded or permanently paralyzed from adulterated foods. The culprits are now faced with life imprisonment. It was badly needed.

Law and order has improved 1,000 per cent.Students are put in jail for cheating on examinations. This has brought a stop to the truancy of students. One big problem is to get the professors to do an honest day's work. There is improvement but many only teach 10 per cent of the time and have no sense of ethics regarding marking and selling answers to the students. One college principal told me that for several years his gradnating class hac to often wait 10-14 months to write their examinations. Dates would be set up and then postponed. Too, the pattern was an eight-month wait for the results. It usually meant two lost years for the student. The emergency legislation has corrected all this.

Strikes were commonplace, ruining industry. They became the instrument of political parties. There are no longer any strikes.

There were 14 political parties. Politics consumed almost half of the nation's time and kept its leaders from making decisions. Now there is really only one party and the Communist Party is all it faces and they have gone underground.

Food production is at record levels and should continue to grow. Trains run on time and tickets are paid for. Almost no one paid for a long time. Buses operate. People go to work on time. Only about 8 million people read the newspaper.

Exports are improving and efforts to streamline exchange and trade with foreign countries are being made. This would never happen if nationalism and party politics were allowed to continue.

Most people seem to suppor[illegible] Mrs. Gandhi. It is my personal opinion that had she not acted, the country would have either split into several parts or have been taken over by the army. The army is loyal, well trained and disciplined.

Murray Dryden
Madras, India

Canadian media

It was very interesting to read about the response of Canadian TV Companies in your March 4 issue. It might be of interest to your readers to know what has been happening in this part of Canada in this regard.

Although the majority of our members are of Indian origin, we believe in safeguarding the interests of all minority ethnic groups including local Indians. We are working towards a goal to make Canada an ideal society (very ambitious?). In 1973 we held a conference with the theme of "The Role of Minorities in Shaping the Canadian Identity". We got participation from almost all ethnic groups. In this venture the following was the response from different sources.

1. Government of New Brunswick, through Dr. Noel Kinsella, Chairman of N.B. Human Rights Commission. **Excellent**

2. ATV (an affiliate of CTV). **Excellent**

3. Local newspaper **Lukewarm with twisted news**

4. CBC-TV **Nil**

5. CBC - Radio — I phoned twice to talk to the producer of the show called "Informative Morning". Both times I was asked to leave my telephone number for my call to be returned. Nobody ever phoned back.

6. A resolution passed by the conference was forwarded to the President of CRTC requesting him to send a circular letter to all radio and TV stations that they include more programs about minority ethnic groups (Canadian Content?). No courtesy even to acknowledge my letter.

About that very time National Film Board was conducting a survey on how the multicultural issue could be promoted. I, as president of our association, returned the filled questionaire but wrote that if any real service to fight prejudice and discrimination is to be made, please do not make films for us, rather make films about us showing native Canadians how we are contributing to build Canada. Everybody, I am sure, knows the result. Rather than making films to educate native Canadians, films were made in our languages to educate us about Canada and Canadians.

G. R. Saini
Fredericton, N.B.

GREATER COLLABORATION WITH SOVIET UNION IN SATELLITE COMMUNICATION

New Delhi, Mar 27 (UNI): Greater Soviet collaboration in the field of satellite communication for television is one of the major results of the recent discussions Minister Of Information and Broadcasting Vidya Charan Shukla had with Soviet authorities in Moscow.

Swar Sangam performance

What has made D. Verma, criticize Manjula Parakot's statements? It is a fact that the individuals were all amatuers and not professionals. They came forward, sacrificed their time, energy and skill to please the audience. They gave their best to the public, not for money or fame.

Instead of encouraging the group and congratulating the group, Mr. Verma condemns the group, and goes further and attacks the individuals.

Mr. Verma claims, he has much knowledge of music, Hindi and Urdu. If so why did he keep aloof? Why did he not teach the others, or put things right? Instead he kills their enthusiasm.

I appeal to the organizers and workers of Swar Sangam to improve their team work and talent. Mind you there will always be brickbats flying your way.

S. S. Pandya
Thompson,
Manitoba.

Super paper

I have been reading Canadian India Times for a long time. It seems I have read it since I came to Canada in 1968.

Your paper like a quality wine has improved with age.

It is very lucid, fair and forceful. The best features to me are the editorials, articles, letters to the editor, matrimonial ads, trade and business ads, etc. Really in one word I can see your paper is super.

B. S. Sodhi
Truro, Nova Scotia.

by George M[illegible]

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Production vs. population

by George Mathew

New Delhi: some state governments in India are vying with one another in their overenthusiasm to bring a legislation for compulsory sterilisation of couples with more than two living children to arrest the "alarming" increase in the birth rate which they seem to consider is the panacea for all economic problems.

Presumably those who advocate such drastic steps believe that the period of Emergency should be utilised to enact and enforce the ceiling law on children thus curtailing the freedom even of procreation. The Prime Minister in a recent interview has said that "I think it (compulsory sterilisation) is a bit drastic ... I think all avenues should be explored." The government clarified in the Rajya Sabha that it is not contemplating any punitive measures to enforce family planning. Yet the overenthusiasm of some state government, notably Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal and Maharashtra, have not in any way dwindled.

Punjab was the first among the state governments to announce that a Bill is being finalised.

Haryana has followed suit by formulating a legislation fixing a ceiling of two children for every eligible couple; the Bill prescribes a fine of Rs 2,000 along with compulsory sterilisation if a couple exceed the ceiling. (see details elsewhere).

Among the incentives and disincentives being contemplated by the Delhi Administration are: Allotment of flats, tenements, shops and plots in all income categories will be made only to those who have limited their families to two children. Eligible couples will be entitled to hire-purchase and instalment facilities. Non-eligible couples will not get housing loans. Entrepreneurs having two children will get a loan for a small-scale industry only on producing a certificate that either spouse is sterilised. Those having less than two children will have to produce a certificate that they will restrict the number of the children to two. Free medical facilities will be given only to those having less than two children and those who give undertaking to accept the ceiling on children. Recruitment to government service will also be restricted on that basis. All facilities of loans, advances, houses etc. will be available only to those who fall in line with the ceiling on children.

Many newspapers have editorially criticised the proposal for compulsory sterilisation. The Indian Express wrote: "If after a quarter-century of efforts and an expenditure of several hundred crores the family planning programme has not brought about the desired results, the blame must largely be placed in the official apathy and managerial bungling, chiefly at the state level, that has characterised the campaign for many long years ... the fact that compulsory sterilisation has been made the kingpin of the new policy suggests a kind of thinking that is more spectacular than sensible."

The Times of India wrote that "penalising a government servant who has more than the stipulated maximum number of children by taxing him more heavily or refusing him a housing loan would amount to punishing the children for the 'sins' of their parents." A number of letters are appearing in the newspapers against such drastic measures thus treating human beings "as dumb animals." In the wake of the current discussion and public opinion on the subject, the Health Minister has announced that a national policy on family planning would be formulated soon.

It may be recalled that a Private Member's Bill for compulsory sterilisation of leprosy patients was dismissed by the Parliament in 1969 which was later withdrawn on the grounds that it was considered unconstitutional to the extent that it violated the fundamental rights and the concept of equality before law guaranteed in the constitution. Participating in the discussion a member said it smacked of the historical association with Naxis who indulged in mass sterilisation of the jews to preserve the purity of Aryan Germans."

However, the fact remains that the country's population continues to grow at an alarming rate in relation to the corresponding increase in overall productivity. India was the first country in the world to adopt a family planning policy as far back as 1952. During the last 24 years the government has spent Rs 448 crores on family planning, besides substantial amounts by private and international agencies.

Population-wise India is adding one Australia to it each year. From 548 million in 1971, India's population is estimated at around 605 million at present. It was only 439 million in 1961. At the present rate of increase, it is estimated that its population would cross one billion by 1990. The Government's target of zero population growth rate can be achieved only be reducing the birth rate annually by point one per 1000 in the coming decade.

Performance of Problem state

By A. J. Singh

In the face of the political instability that has dogged Kerala ever since its inception on Nov. 1, 1956 the present Ministry deserves acclaim for its commendable performance in outlasting its full five year term and getting a fresh lease of six months up to April 22, 1976.

Another feather in its cap is the enticing of the Kerala Congress away from the opposition into its own fold. This has secured the ruling alliance a tactical victory over the CPM led opposition and pushed up its strength to 73 in the 134 member state Assembly.

The Socialist party, which is a major CPM ally is facing internal revolt from its members of the Travancore-Cochin section. They are annoyed at the exclusion of their immediate leaders from the party executives.

Disenchantment with the CPM and disinclination for further involvement with it have resulted in the breaking up of some minor parties in the marxist camp.

Kerala Socialist Party and the Karshaka Thozhilali Party also are facing similar splits caused by group rivalries.

Praja Socialist Party is a glaring example of similar multiple splintering. factions are identifiable only by their leaders.

The governing alliance also is a victim of similar internal dissentions.

A section of the Muslim league has broken away to join the opposition, defying the state muslim league president Mohamadali Shihab Thangal.

Discard threatened the organizational and the ministerial wings of the Congress party but was scotched by the timely intervention of the central Congress.

But inspite of all these internal rifts, the emergency has wrought a polarisation of parties, which are now exploring possibilities of joint political action for effective implementation of the 20-point economic program.

The governing coalition appears to have built its strategy around the implementation of the 20-point program as its answer to the opposition's challenges. This strategy has fetched good dividends.

Firstly, it has stirred up confusion in the opposition ranks and caused 70 league dissidents and 30 marxists to join the Tellicherry district congress. Secondly, it has brought the Congress and the CPI closer together. The CPI is extending full support to the implementation of the program in order to project a better image than the CPM.

The CPI Chief Minister, Achuta Menon is playing a very shrewed game in constantly seeking the cooperation of the opposition for implementing the economic program on the one hand and vociferously regretting the CPM's disagreement to subscribe whole-sale to the program on the other. The CPI theoretician, C. Unni Rajan asserts that while the functional freedom of the opposition and the CPM is no way curtailed, the paralysing of the CPM's activities is a direct consequence of the ideological confusion reigning rampant within the party.

Following the declaration of emergency in June 1975 and the subsequent announcement of the economic program the Kerala Govt. has gone all out to bring about discipline, peace and purposefulness in the state. 463 officials have been suspended for incompetence and corruption and 60 officials have been proceeded against. 362 cases were booked under the Essentials Commodities Act and 36 under the Defence of India Rules, 229 for offences relating to food and civil supplies and 30 under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act.

All this has resulted in refurbishing the image of the Govt.

Pak-Canadian Nuclear talks

The Canadian Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen, has stated that Pakistan and his country are at odds on various points regarding nuclear cooperation between them but an agreement is expected to be reached before summer.

Canada has hinted that it would cut off shipments of uranium for a small Candu-type reactor it had sold to Pakistan in 1972 if it does not agree to strengthen safeguards against the use of spent fuel from the reactor for a nuclear explosion.

Intensive negotiations on the improvement of safeguards continued here for a week after the departure of Z. A. Bhutto and considerable progress is reported to have been made. He had left behind his Foreign Secretary, Agha Shahi, to carry on the conversations on behalf of his Government. The discussions have not yet been completed and are due to be resumed at a later date. They have now reached a point where public servants need guidance from their political masters.

Book Review

GA'

By A. F. Ashtamudi

GANGA: Sacred river of India. By Raghubir Singh and Eric Newby. The Perennial Press, 1975, Hong Kong.

Tracing the origin of the Ganga from the mists of veiled mythology to geographic reality, Singh and Newby takes us through a theme that is as old as Indian Civilization itself. The photographs are truly stunning. It is a visual feast; and this is what makes the book what it is. And the essay introduction by Eric Newby is an adequate summation of what the Ganga means to a vast majority of Indians.

Raghubir Singh has spent nearly six years photographing the Ganga from every vantage point. Many of his stills have a delicately shadowy quality. Full and expansive, they throb with vitality and sheer emotive force. It is as if the inner eye has made its way into the camera lens. Emerging under the name of Bhagirathi from an ice cave at the foot of the Gangotri glacier 13,000 ft. up in the Garhwal Himalayas through Badrinath and Gangotri on down through Rishikesh, Pravag, Varanasi, Patni, Bhagalpur and Hooghly; we are taken on an engrossing journey that is of the very heart of Hinduism and India.

Two pictures that will forever remain etched in my memory are on page 116: a group of women huddled during the monsoon rains and a woman carrying a sack of flour through heavy rains near Monghyr. There is something ethereal, dramatic poignant and truly Indian about these pictures. I cannot recall any picture that comes close to these in sheer visual impact. How can one write about pictures that speak to you with hidden eyes?

There are a few stills of Sadhus au naturel high up in the glacier-laden peaks. It doesn't take very long to realize that their very presence in these forbidding heights is a testament to the belief that the bridge between man and god is tenuous. It is a sumptuous triumph for the river and the Goddess. But the river is the Goddess; and, that is India. Some of the photographs reveal a scale so massive that humans appear as mere pawns in a design that defies mortals.

Eric Newby, who has navigated the entire Ganga, writes with a clarity of vision that complements Singh's inner eye. To see the beautiful in the ordinary is a gift that has escaped many, but not Newby. "However poor they may be", writes Newby, "the women's jewellery, their only possessions, will be beautiful. Their bracelets and anklets of solid silver, their necklaces of coloured glass or crystals, all display an uncommon taste.

This is, undoubtedly, a book of uncommon taste.

U.P.'s popular government

by A.J. Singh

A third Congress ministry in 5 years headed by N.D. Tiwari took over in Uttar Pradesh a month ago. The choice on Mr. Tiwari, by the Congress High Command, came as a big surprise to many. Out of all the candidates considered by the High Command Mr. Tiwari had a good administrative experience.

Mr. Tiwari is the youngest Chief Minister of U.P. since independence. An erudite person, he is known for his humility and hard work. Apart from this he is a persuasive debator and a strict disciplinarian. An instance of this is provided by the stern action he took within a week of his assuming office against 22 revenue officers, who were found guilty for non-implementation of land ceiling laws. Before joining Congress Mr. Tiwari was a PSP leader and Deputy leader of the opposition in the U.P. Assembly. He joined Congress in 1964. U.P. despite five successive five-year Plans lags behind many states in economic development.

The new Chief Minister has shown new dynamism and practical sense. His latest decision to hold cabinet meeting in different regions of the state is one such step. This will help the administration to take on-the-spot decisions, on the one hand and shake the senior officials in the secretariat and make them feel the pulse of the people, on the other hand.

Further the Chief Minister has put each Minister in charge of one area for giving his exclusive attention for speedy development. Mr. Tiwari is trying to establish a rapport with his colleagues and to give them a free hand in the implementation of the 20 point economic programme, by June, 1976. The determination to do so is revealed by the fact that as soon as Mr. Tiwari learnt, on assuming office, that land titles have been distributed to only 30,000 landless families so far, he took stern action against the erring officials. Consequently, the pace of land distribution has picked up and by June about 10 Lakh acres of land are expected to be distributed to 11 Lakh landless families.

Further, Mr. Tiwari by creating three departments of ecology, dairy and youth welfare has shown his initiative to tackle new problems pragmatically. Due to rapid industrialisation, pollution of water and air had begun to affect urban life; hence the department of environment is expected to take steps to curb this nuisance. The utility of the other two departments is obvious.

One of the hardest facts about Uttar Pradesh is that, despite its relative backwardness, it has the highest crime rate in the country. Although after the declaration of emergency the crime situation has improved marginally in the urban areas, yet, the situation in the rural areas continues to be the same.

All this and many other problems are engaging the immediate attention of Mr. Tiwari. Hopefully he will succeed, as he has the grit and determination to carry things through to the end.

SATELLITE PHONE SYSTEM LIKELY IN TWO YEARS

Calcutta, Mar 22 (UNI): India will have a domestic satellite telephone system after two years, according to Union Deputy Communications Minister Jagannath Pahadia.

Constitutional democracy in India

by Mukhtyar S Tomar

The Preamble to the Constitution of India reads - "We the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic...adopt, enact and give to ourselves this Constitution". This means that no one can disown the responsibility of having given consent to the Constitution. It is the peoples's own Constitution.

But on the other hand, let us not forget that the constitution is a living institution. As the needs of the nation change, the nature of the Constitution should modify to meet those needs. A static Constitution is a dead institution. As India's first Prime Minister, Jawahar Lal Nehru, had said, "If you make any Constitution rigid and permanent, you stop the nation's growth, the growth of the living, vital, ortanic people". Hence, from time to time, revision of its provisions is a must. Then arises a question: Who should be authorized to decide the changing needs of the nation and up-date the provisions of the Constitution to meet those needs? Since the Parliament of India is the supreme authority elected by the people of India, it is the best institution to look after that aspect of the nations needs.

Article 368 of the Constitution describes three different procedures by which an amendment of the Constitution can be brought about:

(1) Some provisions of a minor nature can be amended by a simple majority in the Parliament.

(2) There are certain provisions which can be amended by the Parliament by two-thirds majority, separately in both Houses of the Parliament.

(3) Provisions of vital importance can be amended only if a Bill to that effect is passed by both the Houses of Parliament by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, and also has been ratified by the legislatures of not less than half of the total number of Provinces.

An amendment may follow any procedure, the Parliament has to play a vital role. The present Parliament of India was constitutionally composed and is perfectly competent to handle the needs of the hour. TheConstitution has worked well for nearly three decades, while the progress in respect to discipline in political life failed to keep pace with the change. the Opposition in the elected bodies is a must, and a strong Opposition is a sign of a healthy institution. But instead of being a constructive Opposition, if the Opposition becomes destructive, it is a disgrace to the whole nation, and if that kind of Opposition forgets all tenets of decency and reponsibility and bends backward to tear the nation apart, it is the Constitutional reponsibility of the Government to uphold the Constitution and save its institutions and the country. If the present Parliament has carried out that responsibility and stayed within the constitutional limits for that purpose, I don't see any reason to criticise it. Had it failed in its responsibility and let the irresponsible Opposition to carry their plans through I am pretty sure that there would have been riots and possible a civil war. Let us, just for the sake of argument, put these two situations-constitutional emergency and riots or civil war at par, how many of us would like to vote the second alternative.

As Prime Minister Trudeau has repeatedly said about the Anti Inflation measures that let them have a test of time, and only then we can say for sure whether they were successful or not. He is sure that they would and so is Mrs. Gandhi about the results of the Emergency in India. We know that people, by nature are conservative in their thoughts; they don't want any change without reservations. But how can you aspire for the fruits unless you try for them. the fruits of emergency in India will be known only after some time. So, let us wish that emergency in India would create dicipline in the life of the nation. And if Mrs. Gandhi fails to achieve these goals of dicipline, and economic, social and moral developments, she would have no choice other than going to the people for their verdict. According to the Preamble to the Constitution of India, nobody can question the authority of the Constituton.

Mrs. Gandhi herself has said in an interview with the French News Agency AFP (The Canadian India Times: Feb 5, 1976 p. 2) that she was on the whole in favour of preserving the present system of parliamentary democracy "with perhaps some modification" (Hopefully to meet the changing needs of the nation). She goes on to say "democracy could function only when both the government and opposition went according to its rule. My own belief is that because of India's size and diversity, it is all the more important that power should not be concentrated but remain with the people. Democracy is a value we cherish."

Such pronouncements by responsible leaders like Mrs. Gandhi are worth considering. Let me ask my fellow readers to express their appreciation for the improvements brought about by the Emergency, and give a serious thought to the last paragraph of an editorial in The Canadian India Times of Jan 15, 1976 "A word about the role of democratic countries of the world...and their 'free' media shedding an ocean of crocodile tears on the demise of democracy in India before passing any judgments on the constitutional democracy in India.

Food situation improves

The improved food situation is reflected in rice procurement, open availability in the markets, fall in the offtake from fair price shops, stable prices and the correction of inter-crop distortions.

The improved food situation is also indicated by the arrival of substantial quantitites of unseasonal wheat in the market in U.P. and other places. The reason: the big farmers are disgorging their hoarded stocks in anticipation of a further fall in wheat prices in view of the prospects of a good crops in April.

Another noticeable trend is that the distortion in the prices of coarse grains vis-a-vis wheat and rice is also beginning to disappear. Bajra, jawar, maize and barley are selling cheaper as compared to wheat and rice. Gram prices, however, continue to be costlier.

By A. J. Singh

A package of incentives for investment in India

By George Mathew

In the recent past the Government of India has offered wide ranging incentives to promote investment by persons of Indian nationality or origin living abroad. These new policy announcements also remove the fear and certain risks faced by them in the past and assure a new deal. Hitherto, the government made no distinction between the foreigners and the people of Indian origin in the matter of investment in India.

These new measures provide an opportunity for Indians abroad to harness the foreign exchange earnings of the country and to associate themselves in the development of their motherland which has incurred considerable monetary and non-monetary expenses, particularly in the case of a large number of qualified Indian professionals like doctors, nurses, engineers and scientists who earn comparatively high wages abroad. A large number of such professionals are leaving the country every year seeking lucrative employment abroad. While this exodus of qualified professionals is a great loss to the nation, a complete ban on this "brain-drain" is not considered feasible because, a developing country like India cannot offer them adequate avenues of employment. At the same time they cannot altogether forget that they have a responsibility to their motherland.

NEW SCHEME

Under the new scheme of incentives offered by the government, Indians holding foreign passports can remit money back home through banking channels without risk of any loss arising from fluctuations in exchanges of currencies.

Indians can open external accounts in pound sterling or the U.S. dollar. The foreign currency accounts will be provided in the currencies in which the remittances are received and funds will be repayable to the account holder in the same currency without reference to the Reserve Bank. The interest payable on deposits will be free of income tax and the interest will be payable in the currency in which the account is maintained. The exchange risk in respect of both, the funds remitted to India by the account holders and the interest accruing on funds, will not have to be borne by non-resident depositors.

Indians abroad can now open non-resident Account in Indian Rupees. This facility is also available to government servents posted abroad with Indian Missions and similar other government agencies, whether on permanent or temporary assignments.

The non-resident Account can be opened with any Indian bank. Capital and interest earned on these accounts are repatriable at the prevailing rate of exchange. Investment from these accounts are, however, restricted to Units of the Unit Trust of India, national saving certificates and government securities. Earnings from these are also partiable.

IN INDUSTRY

Indians abroad can now freely invest in Indian industries in relaxation to the provision of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act. However, they will not be allowed to acquire more than 20 percent of the share capital of any venture.

In the past all foreign investments in India were regulated under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act which made no distinction between non-resident Indians and foreigners.

The government has now decided to permit Indians abroad to invest in a wide range of permitted industries in relaxation of the provisions of the prevailing regulations.

Those intending to avail of this opportunity are also given the required assistance from the various agencies concerned with the type of industry. The Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research assists scientists and technologists returning from abroad for the purpose of setting up manufacturing capacities, and the Department of Electronics helps those interested in setting up industrial undertakings for the manufacture of electronic items.The Additional Secretary, Department of Industrial Development acts as a focal point for removing bottlenecks in respect of aplicants not covered by the first two categories.

The Indian Investment Centre has also been acting as a focal point and co-ordinated agency for rendering effective assistance to non-resident Indians working in overseas offices including those at NewYork, London, Dusseldorf and Tokyo. As many as 1,740 enquiries were received from non-resident Indians during 1974-75.

The Indian Investment Centre in collaboration with the Syndicate Bank of India also provides additional finances in Rupees required to meet the cost of indigenous machinery for the projects to be set up by Indians abroad in India. In the initial phase, assistance will be given to about 20 projects in the small and medium scale sectors, the maximum such assistance being limited to Rs. 10 lakhs. The rate of interest will carry a concession of one per cent over the normal rates applicable for such loans.

IN IMPORT

Applications for import of machinery and raw material are being considered by the government on a liberal basis for industrial units in the small scale sector to be set up by Indian nationals returning from or residing abroad. Machinery up to the value of Rs. 2.5 million is allowed to be imported provided it is purchased with the applicant's own foreign exchange earnings. permissible raw materials and components for meeting the requirements of one year subject to a maximum of Rs. 0.1 million is also allowed. Imports under these provisions are not allowed to be sold or transferred for five years.

IN UNITS

The entire dividend income from Units of the Unit Trust of India purchased from non-resident external accounts are tax-free. At present the sale proceeds of the units and the dividend earned on the units are repatriable, but the dividend income is tax-free only up to the limit of Rs. 5,000. The tax-free concession without any limit now offered is intended to promote more units holdings of non-resident Indians.

With the crackdown on smugglers and foreign exchange racketeering, a steep increase in the inward remittances through legal channels has been noticed. The accounts held by Indians abroad have grown from Rs 6.08 crores in December 1971 to Rs. 28.03 crores in December 1974. The increase in the last two years is expected to be much higher although official figures were not immediately available.

What the readers think

By Our Correspondent

Here are some views of the readers of the Illustrated Weekly of India which carried an exclusive interview with Sanjay Gandhi. The interviewer was its editor Khushwant Singh.

"O Dear Khushwant Singh,
You have indeed proved since,
A great Khushamat Sinh.
But while your Khushamat
Was, till now, confined to Indira Gandhi,
It has now flirted further
And reached even Sanjay Gandhi.
Should I pity your Khushamat?
Or your readers' Kismat?

"The conclusion of Sanjay Gandhi is perfectly justified that our greatest failing is burcaucracy and that it is good only to maintain law and order which was the main aim of the British Imperialist Government and that it was a great misfortune that the country retained this alien type of government after independence."

* * *

"With Sanjay Gandhi's entry into politics, our country's main problem, 'Who is going to be the next Prime Minister?' has been solved."

* * *

"A doctor's son cannot treat a patient just because he is the son of a doctor. Heritage is good, but not in politics."

* * *

"Your article on Sanjay Gandhi starts on a wrong note. Sanjay did not complete his education in the Doon School. Sanjay was withdrawn from there by his mother to be sent to England along with his elder brother, Rajiv, who had finished his studies there."

Fellowship for Mehta and Shankar

New Delhi, Mar 30 (UNI): Internationally renowned sitarist Pandit Ravi Shanker and Zubin Mehta, world famous conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, are among the five recipients of the Sangeet Natak Akademi fellowship.

The three others are: T. Balusarawati, Ember S. Vijayaraghavachariar and Rasiklal Chhotalal Parikh.

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Mar. 30 (UNI):
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Films

CHHATRABHANG
Directed by Nina Shivdasani
Produced by Asha Sheth

Untouchability is unlawful in India — unlike, say apartheid in South Africa. But that need not, in fact does not, make much difference to the inhuman extent of its prevalence. Whatever the reason, the law seems helpless.

Chhatrabhang, a film in documentary style, focuses on Jogia, a village in Uttar Pradesh where harijans are in an overwhelming majority in relation to Brahmins, the only other community living there. But the bulk of the land is owned by the latter who engage the Harijans at less than fair wages. The relationship between the two communities stops at this crassly commercial level, with each group having its own way of life, even separate wells to draw water from.

So an unprecedented situation arises when the Harijan well goes dry, leaving most of the Jogia population without drinking water. A request is made to the Brahmins who reluctantly agree to donate a tumbler of water per Harijan family. The Harijan women make a pathetic attempt to take water from the brahmin well. Police help is sought by the Harijans to get water and by the Brahmins for preventing the Harijan from getting it. The police sides, not surprisingly, with the higher caste.

Thematically topical, and honest in treatment, **Chhatrabhang** is techincally wanting. The visuals are not as powerful as the commentary; at times they contradict the spoken word. Too little a camera movement gives the film the likeness of a string of pictures. And too many 'modern' sounds go ill with the rural theme. At times the sound track goes away.

Yet there are moments when the theme acquires a certain poignancy, as when the camera captures sensitively the faces of the two Harijan women who voice the despondency that results from callous exploitation. Their faces are expressive even more than that of Shabana Azmi when she played with unusual effect the parts of a low-caste girl in **Ankur** and **Nishant**.

Democratic World

TAPASYA
Direction and screenplay by Anil Ganguly
Produced by Tarachand Barjatya

If we put aside the technical aspect, the stuff that makes this picture is decades old — an emotion packed, tear-soaked drama of a middle class family steeped in conservative values. A redeeming feature is the absence of the sanctimoniousness that usually goes with prosentations of this kind.

Almost every character, except the vampish wife, is a picture of virtue, so much so that even the cruel mother-in-law of the Hindi screen, Lalita Pawar, has a gentler role for a change.

The story is traditional. After the death of her father, the self-sacrificing daughter takes upon herself to bring up her brother and the two sisters, putting off for their sake her own marriage. Family life proceeds to plan, until the brother throws a spanner into the works by marrying a rich wayward woman and goes to live with her parents. The story moves on, widening the distance between the brother and the sisters but in the end, everything is smoothly resolved — the senseless wife is reformed, her husband owns his folly, the sacrificing sister gets her man and her **tapasya** is over.

Rakhee's is an outstanding performance, as good as her role in **Mere Sajana** as the insane but affectionate woman. Asrani is as usual all gestures and nothing else. The two new-finds — Gayatri and Abha Dhuliya, playing the two young sisters, are pleasing.

Democratic World

CHOMANA DUDI(Kannada)

DIRECTION AND MUSIC:
B.V.KARANTH

With the refreshingly realistic treatment he gives in this film to the 1935 novel by Shivarama Karant, B.V. Karanth establishes himself high among contemporary India film directors. In the Kannada cinema he already ranks with wellknown names like N. Laxminarayan, Puttana Kanagal, G.V. Iyer and Girish Karnad. His creative talent came through in the trilogy on 'disintegration', SAMSKARA (dealing with the individual), VAMSHA VRIKSHA (about the family which he co-directed with Karnad) and KAADU (on the community). Chomana Dudi confirms his class.

Despite its technical flaws, Chomana Dudi makes a powerful impact with its theme of man's inhumanity to man. It brings out the capacity of a destitute to face upto indignity. Without aesthetic pretensions, the film attains the attributes of a work of art by pursuing and presenting the unvarnished truth in a beautiful way.

The passage of time has, sadly, not removed the relevance of the many issues explored by the novel and vividly reflected in the film - the caste system, land hunger, economic exploitation, peasant pauperism, religious conversion, and above all the struggle for dignity. The film is the most explicit statement, seen by this reviewer, of the condition of the landless peasant - who has a pair of bullocks but no land to call his own, to cultivate for himself. Even if one may not identify oneself with Choma and his children, one cannot fail to feel involved in their fate.

Though the simple linear recital of this cinematic re-creation of social reality is not as impressive as its content, it has a certain rhythm which alternates between mimetic, narrative and rich self-speaking visuals. It has a dignity of style which compares with that of its main character, Choma, a man riven with inner and external conflict but whose self-respect never forsakes him.

In terms of theme, treatment, acting and direction it is decidedly the best film of the year. It would therefore be no surprise if CHOMANA DUDI is hailed and honoured in India with national awards and wins encomiums abroad (It is India's official entry at the Karlovy Vary film festival).

In the print seen by this writer one scene is cut short, that in which Choma's son, Neela dies drowning. The episode of Choma seeking the help of a group of brahmins to save his son and their refusal to touch the drowning boy because of his lowly caste has unfortunately been erased with the result that the boy's end appears a little too abrupt. Its restoration will add to the poignancy of the incident.

There is another touching scene when out of frustration Choma is about to yield to priestly persuation to embrace Christianity - "Become a Christian and you will get a piece of land and attain heaven." He fights with his conscience and his goddess remonstrates: "All these years you have trusted me, why don't you do at this old age?"

The last scene is the most memorable. Choma sees his daughter closeted with the estate-owner's clerk, his world crashes down, he releases the bullocks into the jungle, smashes and consigns to fire his plough, then shuts himself up in his hut and starts playing on the DUDI(the drum on which he tries to work himself off). As the drum beat rises to a crescendo, his daughter and son wait outside tremulous with fear and wonder about what is happening to their father. And, as they make bold to open the door, the drum rolls slowly down through the gap.

A film like CHOMANA DUDI might make one's faith in humanity wobble. But it restores one's faith in the Indian cinema

DARSHAK in Democratic World.

CHURNING RACIALIST SLURS

Racist literature, like racist attacks are becoming more frequent; and almost always the origins appear to be British.

The latest piece is a poem which we reproduced here. By a very remarkable coincidence, this poem had appeared in a number of papers in Britain in 1973 and sure enough, with some very slight modifications has found its way here.

Racism may serve the interests of a small minority, the majority must prevent itself being sucked into the vortex of hatred. At the same time, the victim communities have to create greater awareness among their members and face up to the challenges united.

Plenty Room in Pakistan

I come for visit - am treated regal
So I stay – who cares ILLEGAL?
I come to Canada poor and broke
Get on bus, see Manpower bloke
Kind man treat me really swell there
Send me down to see the welfare
Welfare say "Come down no more"
"We send the cash out to your door"
PIERRE TRUDEAU make you wealthy,
Medical plan will make you healthy.

Six months on dole – in rags and turbans,
I buy big house in suburbans.
They come with me – we live together,
Only one thing bad – the weather
Fourteen families living in
Neighbours patients wearing thin,
Finally whites must move away,
I buy their house too – I say
Find more Paki's – house I rent,
More in garden, live in tent.

Send for family – they all trash,
They all draw more welfare cash
Everything is doing good
Soon we own the neighbourhood
Now on quiet summer nights,
Go to Temple – watch the sights
We have hobbie – it called breeding
"Baby Bonus" – keeps us feeding.

Two years later, big bank roll,
Still go Manpower, still draw dole,
Kids need dentists? Wife need pills?
We get free, got no bills,
White man good, he pay all year
They keep the welfare running here.
Bless all white man, big and small,
For paying tax to keep us all.

We thank Canada – damn good place
Too damn good for white man race,
If they no like coloured man —
PLENTY ROOM IN PAKISTAN.....

(Reprinted from a Toronto fortnightly "Crescent".

Nishant for Cannes festival

New Delhi, Mar 20 (UNI): The Hindi feature film "Nishant", directed by Shyam Bengal, has been selected for screening at the Cannes Film Festival to be held from may 9 to 23.

While "Nishant" has been selected for the competition section, two other films, "Chatrabhang" and "Mrigtrishna", have been entered for critics week and director's fortnight respectively.

"Sansar Semantey" and "Hamsa Geeth" have been selected for official section and information section respectively for the Tashkent festival from May 20 to 30.

Five feature films, 'Dastak', 'Ankur', 'Garam Hava', 'Duvidha' and 'Sonar Kella', will be screened at the Melbourne/Sydney festival to be held from June 6 to 21, says and official release.

CONTINUANCE OF PRESIDENT'S RULE

New Delhi, Mar 20 (UNI): The Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) approved a statutory resolution for continuance of President's rule in Nagaland for another six months from March 25.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRAION

The Vedanta Society of Calgary held its Monthly Meeting on March 14 and celebrated Shri Ramakrishna's Birthday. Swami Aseshananda, a Senior Monk of the Ramakrishna Order and Head of the Vedanta Society Portland, Oregon, delivered a lecture on the Message of Shri Ramakrishna to the Modern Man. This was a supper meeting. A couple of devotional songs were sung by Mrs. Nanda Banerjee. About 140 adults and 50 children attended the function. During his stay of 3 ½ days, Swami Asheshananda also gave a lecture under the Religious Studies Program, University of Calgary on Manday, March 15 on Swami Vivekananda, His religion and Philosophy. He also gave a lecture on the Message of the Gita on two occasions.

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Fine arts all in the family

by Manjula Parukot

Here abroad, one is accustomed to single artistes of varying calibre and standards, making their dubuts and then either blossoming out or receding into the shadows of mediocrity What is amazing about Sudha Chandrashekhar nee Doraiswami, apart from the fact that she abounds in talent and sincerity of purpose, is the active participation of every member of the Doraiswami household in her performances. The Doraiswamis, without exception, are trained in some aspect of the fine arts and indeed their joint effort in presenting a show is remarkable and the results highly commendable.

Sudha herself gave an enjoyable performance on March 14, 1976 before a packed audience at the Medical Sciences auditorium of the University of Toronto. The show was sponsored by the Indian Students Association. Her seven year old daughter Sri Vidya, revealed tremendous potential and winsome charm in her performance, and given time and subjected to discipline, she should develop into a superb dancer

The program consisted of selections of classical devotional dances performed in combined Bharata Natyam and Kuchipudi styles. The intent was to afford the audience the opportunity to compare the two styles in the Thodaya Mangalam and the two Kavuthuvams, both invocational dances. The Thodaya Mangalam, an ancient Vaishnavit prayer, is centuries old and was the precursor of todays's "alarippu".

It is an ancient traditional invocatory dance in which artistes offer salutations to the Supreme Being. In the Kavuthuvams, there were beautiful variation in "raga" (melody), "thala" (rhythm) and "sollu-kettu (verbal connotations). Next followed the Jathiswaram, a sweet musical composition with impressive coordination of eye, neck, hand and foot movements and then, an intricate Varnam rich in "nritya" (dance) and "abhinava" (expression).

The second half of the evening consisted of a peacock dance in the Kathakale style, complete with "chenda vadyam" (percussion instruments). Here there was a deviation from the usual and the audience had to make a conscious effort to accept the peacock dance performed in the rigorous and energetic Kathakali style rather than in traditional Bharatu Natyam. Sri Vidya won the audience over with a devotional Meera number and a light Gypsy Dance (Vanchi Vandaal). There was also a Cosmic Dance of Shiva performed by Sudha into which was merged the "Thillana", wherein the "Bhava" (mood) was one of pure joy. Sound effects similar to those produced by the "dumuru" (Lord Shiva's instrument) were provided vocally by Sudha's brother. The piece du resistance of the evening, the Kumbha Nritya (pitcher dance) done in pure Kuchipudi style, in which the danseuse displays absolute self control and deep concentration while balancing herself on the rim of a plate, simultaneously carrying a pitcher of water on her head, unfortunately had to be cancelled, the stage being carpeted. This difficult and intricate piece would definitely have thrilled the audience.

The entire repertoire was performed to live music provided by Vidyanjali. Sudhas's three brothers and mother constituted the major portion of the orchestra. There was Suresh on mridangam and chenda, Srinivas and Prakash performing "nattuvangam" (songs and cymbals) and their mother on harmonium. The only outsiders were Mrs. Rangaraj on violin, Mohan Rao on the "morsing" (jewish harp) and Uma on veena. Light effects were managed effectively by Sudha's husband especially in the cosmic dance, highlighting the varying moods. There was also a musical interlude in raga "ahir bhairavi" and a tillana in raga "chenchurutti"

Baby Sri Vidya Chandrasekhar as Lord Krishna

Preserving Canadian culture

BY B.S. SODHI

I had the opportunity to watch the first segment of the new C.B.C. series called "The Great Canadian Cultural Hunt". If the opener is an indication, I am sure the other segments will be superb watching.

Does Canada have a unique culture with a great potential? Yes. Especially form the perspective of a naturalized citizen of Canada from India. If all of us don't do our sincere best to protect and promote it, history will never forgive us.

A question at the end of the show was, should Canada exist as an independent country? Yes of course. The implication that we should cease to exist as an independent cultural, economic and political entity is too dumb to comprehend and too grotesque if it ever had to come to pass. The idea of staying as an economic and cultural slave to the U.S. or event become the real or de facto 51st state of the U.S., is intolerable to ours as well as the world's interest. The world cannot stomach or condone Canada taking the above course. It would tip the balance of power too heavily in favour of the U.S.

Do we have to be anti-American to preserve and protect our cultural, economic and political identity? Myself and most of us would love to say no. Even though I have great respect and admiration for America and its people, yet in this instance I will have to agree with Peter C. Newman's (Editor, MacLean's) answer on the above mentioned show. The answer is very reluctantly and regrettably, yes. Otherwise it would be like asking a rapee to accept, admire and love the rapist.

Obviously, in comparison to America and many other cultures, we are less barbaric, less egressive, have the least desire of dominating other cultures, more peaceful, more open to immigrants from all parts of the world, more kind to our minorities and under-privileged, have the best social welfare system, the most stable and efficient political system, less morally and political corrupt and so on. What more could anybody want? The moon! If there is heaven on earth, it is in Canada. Why can't the majority of us realize how privileged and fortunate we are, to be living in Shangrila i.e., Canada, just because of the accident of birth or relocation as in the case of new immigrants. Don't we owe this prince of all coutries something?

Here I quote the immortal words of President John F. Kennedy, "Ask not for what the country can do for you, ask what you can do for you country."

Back stage, during my conversation with Sudha, I was impressed by her attitude towards her art. Her approach towards dance is spiritual, very sincere and highly disciplined. Her separation from the rigid artistic atmosphere that is characteristic of dance circles in India has not spoiled her in the least. Here, thousands of miles away for the ever-critical, watchful eyes of her gurus, she continues to practise her art along traditional lines and thrills audiences throughout the States and Canada.

There is no doubt that Sudha's art has been so very widely and successfully propagated in the western world owing to the willing support and active participation of her family. It gives such pleasure to watch the entire unit perform as a well co-ordinated whole with absolute synchronization of orchestra, dance and effects. Their oneness of spirit permeates through to the audience and it goes without saying the end results are both enjoyable and praiseworty.

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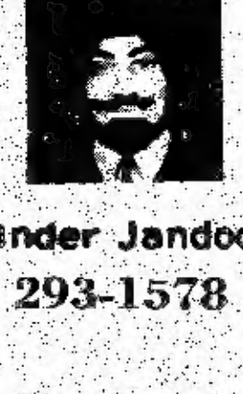

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Indian airlines:

Do they ever learn?

by Robert Lula

INTRODUCTION:

Indians from abroad as well as a handfull of western tourists who arrive in India face considerable hardship because of the unnecessary beaurocratic routines and lack of coordination at Bombay airport where the officials refuse to learn from their mistakes. The following has been my experience and this is not unique.

THE AIRPORT

The Airport is the first place a tourist comes in contact with after landing in a Country. The cleanliness of the airport usually represents the cleanliness of the country and the welcome received at the airport indicates the general attitude of the people.

By any standards Bombay airport is far inferior to any western international airport. It is a sanitary nightmare for those who arrive from abroad. Dirty floors and walls, poorly dressed, unfriendly customs, immigration and airline officers, and repulsively dressed porters and other workers are the trademark of Bombay airport. The attendants in the dirty khaki shirt at the coffee shop, in the domestic departure lounge who serve food with their dirty, bare hands is no surprise to local people. The thin old lady who attended the women's security check wore a discoloured sari which was *wrinkled as if an elephant sat on it.* Keeping washrooms dry and clean will never degrade public comfort. Putting a smile on the faces of Customs and Immigration officers and behaving politely will never violate any regulations. Hiring a well-dressed lady with a smile for security check won't tarnish India's national image. If one is doubtful how to keep coffee shops clean, one should visit any similar coffee shops in any western international airports. Observing smartly dressed porters at Montreal's Mirabel airport will give a general idea how to dress the Customs, Immigration and airline officers at Bombay airport.

INDIAN AIRLINES

Indian Airlines (IA) counters are manned by a group of individually programmed, mechanically oriented robots who can easily create a hell around the passenger. They are too proud of something which I am not too sure of. They treat passengers as slaves, contrary to western standards in which the passengers are treated with respect. None of the IA officers know airline rules and regulations because each gives different answers for the same question. They are very badly in need of a thorough training that will humanize them and make them familiar with the rules and regulations.

It is an undeniable fact that, if the reservation of the passenger still exists and if his name still appears in the flight list, he can expect a normal flight. The structure of flight procedure has been constructed for such people. There is no provision, however, how to handle passegers who arrived from abroad late and missed the connecting IA flight or passengers who are on the waiting list. In spite of all the experiences they have had none of the IA officers know what to do in such circumstances. The irony is that an organization which depends on passengers, whips them left and right.

LACK OF COORDINATION

IA officers are arrogant and speak with no logic. I was sent from counter #6 to information desk and then to circular desk and back to #6 several times and finally when I approached an officer he said "I am a baggage officer I can't help you", and leisurely strolled to the baggage conveyor and watched the moving baggage with great responsibility. While I was looking for help and guidance the flight had left.

Though my agent had requested, four days before for reservation of both flights on the same day I was 40th and 27th respectively in the waiting lists of both flights. My disappointment became desperation when I was told after both flights were gone, that the waiting lists with my name would be demoted to the waste basket. Not a single soul offered any help, except my brother-in-law. I looked around and saw several unfortunate passengers with tired faces and frequent sighs! I talked to a few. Their stories were not any different from mine. I learned a group of girls arrived late and found the connecting IA flight was gone. They stayed in Bombay for a week and finally took a bus to Cochin, the same thing happened to a group of nuns. I talked to a person who had reservations but somehow the name was missing from the flight list. I saw an American girl who was begging the IA officers to "Please have a look at my ticket." I talked to a person who had three telegrams with him stating that his father was seriouly ill. "When I showed the telegram to the duty officer saying my brother was seriously ill she said "Every day people come here with telegrams. In spite of all these a high ranking army officer easily got a seat without any previous reservation.

My brother-in-law suggested I try for the Trivandrum flight. I bought a new ticket from Bombay to Trivandrum and listed my name in the waiting list. Flight number 183 was going to Trivandrum via Goa and flight # 183A was scheduled to Goa, both only a few minutes apart. To my surprise flight 183 was filled first by Goa-bound passengers from the waiting list. "All Goa passengers first" the boarding officer yelled. A few minutes later another announcement was on the air "All Goa passengers go to Flight 183A". The incredible end result was that most Trivandrum passengers, including me were stranded and flight 183A left for Goa with empty seats. What a wonderful coordination.

DISTRIBUTION OF JOBS

Attendants at any western airline ticket counter are trained to do seveal duties such as issuing of boarding passes to many flights, collecting overweight charges, cancelling or issuing tickets, transfering or rerouting the ticket, attaching baggage tags, assisting with baggage and providing the necessary information. On the other hand at Bombay airport there is one person issuing boarding passes to one flight and a duty officer to assist him, one person to handle luggages, one person to issue new tickets for that day's flight and to write overweight tickets and another person to collect money. If one is required to reroute a ticket or to book tickets for future flights he must go to IA headquarters at Nariman Point, a 2 hour bus ride from the airport!

My brother-in-law took me to the IA headquarters to face a heap of other problems. While I was trying to digest several pieces of inconsistant information served to me by different IA officers, one officer informed me that there were two seats available to Madras for the next days flight. My next task was to wait in the long line to see an IA officer. Fortunately they agreed to hold a 2 hour temporary reservation without a ticket.

After three quarters of an hour I reached the end of the line and the IA officer informed me that only Air India has authorization to reroute a ticket issued in foreign countries. With a half loosened tie and a body soaking in sweat I took off to the Air India office. Again another long line. At the end of the line, after 15 minutes, the Air India officer spoke in unmistakable terms that he must have endorsement from Indian Airlines. Another trip back to the Indian Airline office. The duty officer, as if he was doing a big favour, reluctantly endorsed my ticket. Again another trip and a long wait at the Air India office. Problem again! Air India only reroute round trip tickets. I suggested they reroute only the Bombay-Cochin ticket and I preferred to travel from Cochin to Bombay on my return trip. It was equivalent to advising a king crab to walk straight forward. I conceded defeat, the officer won. (One week later Air India officers at Cochin refused to reroute my Madras-Bombay tickets to Cochin-Bombay on the ground that I was travelling by Swiss Air. They asked me to go to Swiss Air office in Madras. Only four days of back and forth journeys to reroute my ticket!)

MADRAS TOO?

When I arrived at Madras the next day, the only Madras-Cochin flight was taxiing to the runway. I hurried to the information desk, followed by a couple of loyal porters. "No sir, there are no more flights to Cochin today" the lady at the information desk informed me, "If you had come 15 minutes earlier you could have gone on that flight", she said as if I travelled in my own plane. The flight left to Cochin with empty seats!

WHAT IS NEEDED

I found the presence of my brother-in-law a great relief, for he knew where to go, how to go cheaper and safer in Bombay. It will be a great help if the IA office provided such a helping hand to total strangers. Why do different officers speak differently on one subject? Maybe it will be handy if IA keep a copy of their rules and regulations on the desk for quick reference, treat passengers as human beings and provide service instead of adopting the attitude that IA officers are doing gigantic favours to the passengers; hire a professional scheduler for better and profitable flight coordination; arrange additional flights to absorb waiting list passengers; handle all group flights by chartered planes instead of reserving them (sometimes the group is as big as 35) through regular flights. These are some of my suggestions.

Thyagaraja festival in Toronto

by Manjula Parakat

The memory of Saint Thyagaraja (1759-1847) was once again relived with all the traditional festivities in Toronto, for the fifth consecutive year, on March 13, 1976. Musicians, vocalists and music-lovers congregated at York University campus to pay homage to the great composer, who with his rich devotional "kritis" (compositions) in Sanskrit and Telugu, glorifying Lord Rama who is believed to be the 7th "avatara" (incarnation) of Mahavishnu, has enriched South Indian Carnatic music beyond measure. Saint Thyagaraja's divinely inspired compositions, apart from having strong religious tones, are highly philosophical and rich in musical content, thus constituting the highest literary landmark in Telugu, in Bhakthi rasa.

The celebrations arranged jointly by Bharathi Kala Manram and York University, commenced with "puja" (worship) at 9 am, invoking Lord Ganesha's as well as the saint's blessings for the day's proceedings. Then followed a group presentation of the Pancharatna Kritis (five jewel-like compositions from Saint Thyagaraja's treasury) with mridangam, violin and veena support.

After a typically South Indian breakfast, individual recitals of the Saint's compositions followed. Both amateur and professional local artists performed treating the audience to a variety of compositions in different ragas like thodi, kharaharapriya, bilahari, charukesi, kalyani, mukari, only to mention a few. There were a couple of interesting veena recitals in ragas aberi, jagan mohini and hamsanathan and one violin item in raga karaharapriya. Professor Higgins dean of the Faculty of Music, York [illegible] who is well known to lovers of carnatic music both in India and abroad, besides participation in the Pancharatna Kritis, gave a superb solo item and thereafter accompanied his students on a couple of compositions. There was an excellent musical number, raga purnachandrika, on the 'marimba' (type of xylophone) with [illegible] Shankaran of York University on the mridangam, which was so effectively rendered that it had to be repeated on popular demand.

The crowning success of the day was an enjoyable 'kutcheri' (vocal concert) in the evening by T.V. Sankaranarayanan with instrumental support from K. Rama Rao the violinist and Ramnad V. Raghavan on mridangam. Being the nephew of the great maestro, the late Sri Madurai Mani Iyer, and his star pupil, Sankaranarayanan delighted Carnatic music fans with his talented style in his rendering of compositions in ragas panthuvarali, kannada, hamsadhwani, kamas, and mohanam. His [illegible] in thodi raga followed by 'swarams' in raga mallikas behag, brindavanasaranga and shiva ranjani was excellent. He ended the 'kutcheri' with mangalam in saurashtra raga.

In conclusion, I must add the T.V. Sankaranarayanan recently participated in the John Coltrane Memorial World Music series in USA as India's representative, giving a series of lectures on various aspects of Indian music. Readers will be surprised to learn that this professional vocalist was a practising lawyer for a short while before he finaly chose to dedicate himself to the fine art. Apart from the fact that his talents and endeavours have contributed largely to his success in critical Carnatic music circles, what is most touching about this superb singer, is his overwhelming simplicity and humbleness-attributes which are found only in true artists.

Expendable Indians ?

by Linda Mcqaig

Subash Kalia would be alive if the pulverizing machine he was operating in a downtown Toronto factory last Oct. 29 had been properly equipped.

That was the conclusion reached by a provincial Government inspector who investigated the death of the 28-year-old Indian immigrant.

At an inquest in January, the inspector also testified that he recommended that the Ministry of Labor take legal action against Astralite Ltd. for violating the Industrial Safetly Act by allowing the machine to operate without a safety guard.

However, no charges have been laid.

Mr. Hynes, the inspector who investigated Mr. Kalia's death, told the inquest that his large backlog of work prevented him from doing followup inspections as quickly as he should.

Jack McKillop, general manager of Astralite, which manufactures artificial Christmas trees, said last week the company now is working closely with the industrial safety branch and the Industrial Accident Prevention Association to improve its safety conditions.

According to evidence at the inquest, Mr. Kalia died when he was struck in the chest by a 30-inch length of pipe he had been using to clear a pulverizing machine that had become jammed with plastic fibres.

Mr. Hynes told the inquest that Mr. Kalia should have shut off the machine. But he also said the machine should have been equipped with a safety guard, as required under the Industrial Safety act.

He said he thought that if the machine had been equipped with a guard Mr. Kalia would not have died.

Mr. Hynes, who has been a Government inspector for 10 years, testified that Astralite had a high accident rate even before Mr. Kalia's death and had failed to comply with Government orders for corrections on other machinery.

Mr. Kalia was a medical graduate who had practiced medicine in India for two years before coming to Canada in 1974 to join his three brother.

He had been accepted as a candidate for medical exams in February, which would have allowed him to qualify to practice medicine in Canada. He was working at Astralite, at the minimum wage, to support himself before taking his exams.

Mr. Kalia was to be married the first week in November, according to his brother, Kewal, who live in Scarborough.

(The Globe and Mail)

Ottawa ICA's annual dinner

by Olga Ghosh

"The character of the Association has changed of late reflecting socio-economic changes in Canada. Members are no longer satisfied with a mere cultural club - they want the Association to play a much broader role so that the community can participate fully in the Canadian milieu while retaining its cultural heritage. The Association is now 17 years old and has risen in number from an initial 40 families to its present membership of 1200 families."

This was part of the welcoming speech given by outgoing president Navin Parekh at the annual dinner of the India Canada Association of Ottawa on March 27.

Approximately 250 people bought tickets to attend the dinner, listen to addresses by guest speakers and to enjoy dancing to a lively band.

Below is a brief summary of the speeches.

Invited guests spoke in alphabetical order. "This is how God wanted it" said the first speaker Walter Baker, Member of Parliament (P.C) for Grenville-Carleton and Opposition House Leader. In a more serious vein he continued: "How can multiculturalism be maintained? Learning one or both of the official languages is a truism. Every ethnic group has a right to pursue its heritage." He believes that the role of the Language Commissioner and that of the broadcasting media should be enlarged to give opportunities to languages other than the two official ones. There ought to be tax concessions to Cable T.V. to enable it to give more service in other languages so that there can be a greater understanding of cultural groups. Postal charges for the Ethnic Press should be reviewed and the Press Gallery ought to have Ethnic Press reporters. Multiculturalism in the capital ought to be much more developed through the Performing Arts i.e. films, museum programming and he stressed the need for a Multicultural Centre in Ottawa. "You are moving in the direction of assimilation quite nicely, but there must be more effort on the part of the Government", Mr. Baker added.

The next speaker, Dr. Lloyd Francis, Liberal Member of Parliament for Ottawa West, started by saying: "Your Community is a distinguished one and takes a proud place in our city. The policy of multiculturalism is distinctly Canadian. We do not follow the melting pot theory, but believe that you can be what you are. You should be proud of your contribution to our life...Multiculturalism is an evolving policy and we have a long way to go ... Canada is a trading nation dealing with many lands. It is wonderful that we have a stock of people from all lands to help us in this ... we intend to expand multiculturalism ... we are enriched by what you bring."

The last guest speaker, Ms. Evelyn Gigantes MPP (NDP) Carleton East, said she had decided to give a personal view on how Canada should behave to cultural groups. Her speech was almost poignant, taking the audience back to the beginnings of Canada's history. "We are all immigrants in this country or children of immigrants" she said, and, referring to the original inhabitants of Canada she added: "We have a national skeleton in the closet and the bones are still rattling"... Many pioneers to this country did not come from the two founding nations. They lived and died without notice ... Until we understand the past, we cannot understand the present. The immigrant who succeeds is the one with strong family and cultural roots in this country. The rejection by children of their immigrant parents will be much less if the parent is treated with respect by the community."

Following addresses by the three guest speakers, Dr Chopra of the Charitable Trust, gave a brief outline of the Trust's functions and announced that notice would soon be given of a drive for funds for the relief of world poverty.

The last speech of the evening was made by Mrs. Jaya Subramaniam president of the new executive 1976/77 who pledged herself to continue to work in the direction for the past year and expressed the hope that the new committee will be able to create further outreach programs.

Karmsar centre helps Vancouver Indians

Karmsar Centre, operating on Vancouver Island since November of last year, is a non-profit organization functioning to create and promote Inter-Cultural activities between the Canadian and East Indian New Canadian communities in the area.

Karmsar is working on 3 locally prepared teaching units, one teaching English to East Indian New Canadians, and the other 2 being Social Study units on India, and East Indians in British Columbia. The units are working in cooperation with University of Victoria, the local School board and teachers associations.

New Canadian children are helped, through Karmsar, so as to enable them to meet the demands of their educational, emotional, and cultural needs. Parents are invited to attend these classes.

In cooperation with Canada Manpower, two full-time classes in Basic English and Upgrading English are being offered. Also recreational activities for all age groups, in cooperation with the school board, have been started.

Karmsar has also helped with immigration problems, old age pensioner inquiries into pension benefits, and is currently planning a program on India to be presented to local service clubs and schools.

Monthly East Indian dinners have been advertised, and held regularly at the Karmsar Centre. Future plans include an Inter-Cultural Music and Film Festival to be held during Easter.

For further information contact: Karmsar, 2-482 Chesterfield Ave., Duncan, B.C., V9L 3L8. Telephone: 746-4897.

compulsion

New Delhi, Mar 21 (UNI): The Central Government is not contemplating any punitive measures to enforce family planning, the Rajya Sabha (Upper House Parliament) was told.

Replying to questions by members, Union Deputy Health Minister A. M. Ishaque said the Government had not decided to bring forward any legislation on compulsory family planning. However, some State Governments were considering such a proposal, he added.

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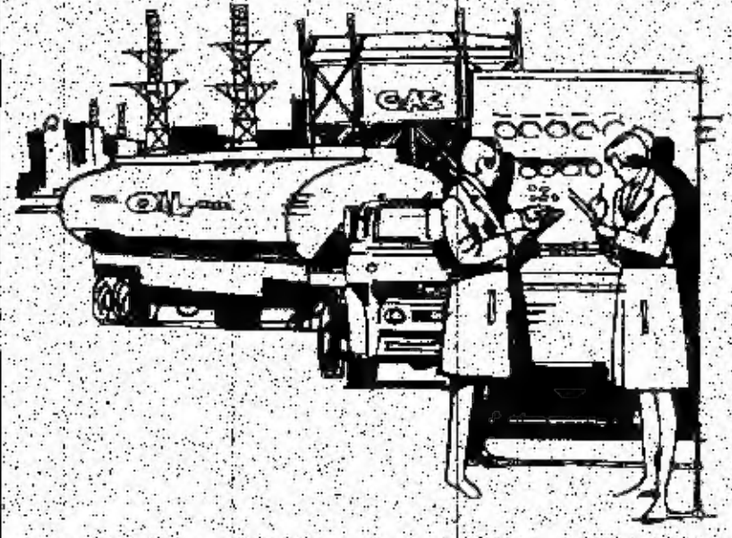

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The Program has two objectives — to find ways to help you cut your own energy bill, and to find ways of using your province's energy more efficiently.

Right now, the Program consists of 70 working projects, including:

- testing ways to reduce fuel consumption in automobiles and farm operations;
- improving the heating and cooling systems in government buildings (which has already cut some energy bills by as much as 20%);
- finding ways to improve residential natural gas and oil furnace efficiency;
- constructing and testing a totally solar-heated home;
- reclaiming waste materials to produce energy;
- sending an "Energy Bus" throughout Ontario to do on-the-spot analyses for industry (so far, annual energy cost savings averaging 20% have been identified).

Practical suggestions on ways you can save energy and money are available from your Ontario Government and from energy-supplying companies.

For more information, write to:
Energy Management Program
Ontario Ministry of Energy
12th Floor
56 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2B7

Ministry of Energy
Dennis Timbrell, Minister

Province of Ontario
William Davis, Premier

Kitchen Korner

By Pranati Sengupta

SHRIMP VEGETABLE

1 lb. small shrimp, (uncooked)
½ cup oil
1 bunch fresh broccoli (about 1½ lb.)
½ lb. of each fresh green beans, (cut in 1½ inch pieces) and frozen potato (French Fry)
1 green pepper, cut into large pieces
2 cups hot water and 2 tsp. chicken soup powder base
1½ tsp. of each salt and chopped fresh ginger or to taste
1 large onion thinly sliced
1 tbsp. curry powder
2 green chili, optional
2 cloves of garlic, crushed

Shel and clean raw shrimp. Trim broccoli and cut off flower ends. Cut stalks into ¼ inch slices on the diagonal. Cut flowers into bite-size pieces.

Heat oil in large deep skillet or Dutch-oven. Add garlic and cook and stir until browned. Discard garlic. Add shrimp and ½ tsp. curry powder. Fry over medium heat two minutes, shaking the pan and turning the shrimp several times. Lift shrimp out of pan and reserve. Add broccoli flowers and cook over high heat for about one minute. Lift out and set aside. Add onion, adding a little more oil if needed, and fry until onion is soft. Add broccoli stems, then green beans, stirring, cook another three to four minutes. Put in green pepper, curry powder, ginger, and salt. Mix well. Stir in chicken powder and add water. Bring to a boil. Mix in frozen potato and boil for two minutes, then turn heat to medium, cover & cook another three minutes. Return shrimp and broccoli flowers to pan and heat two minutes more, uncovered. Serve immediately with fried rice.

Temple for Toronto

A Toronto Economist K.V. Basavaiah has been elected chairman, Board of Trustees of Hindu Temple Society of Canada. The Society is contemplating to build a temple with Gopuram in the vicinity of Metro Toronto. Tirupathi Devasthanams in Andhra Pradesh, India have promised necessary technical help etc., total estimated cost is approximately $400,000.00.

Coming events

The South Indian Cultural Association of Ottawa will be holding a musical celebration in honour of India's greatest composer TYAGARAJA on April 10th at 2 P.M. in the Lounge of St. Patricks at Carleton University, Ottawa. The program consists of the group singing of a PANCHARATNA compositions, a HARIKATHA of the saint's life by Prof. V. Subramaniam individual renderings of the saint's compositions by several singers and the staging of a Tamil farce focussing on the problems of a musician and a priest, organized by Dr. S. Raman.

The membership fee is ten dollars for a family and five for singles. The Association hopes to organize several cultural events in the course of the year including several visiting artists from India as well as local artists.

GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Toronto: SWAMI YOGESHANANDA, Asst. Minister of Veiken-anada Vedananta Society of Chicago will deliver two lectures on the 9th and 10th of April at 8 p.m. in room # 2135 at Sydney Smith Bldg, 100 George St.
The topic on the 9th will be "How do I know I have a Soul?" and on the 10th "Yoga and Vedanda."

Topic of discussion on April 21st will be "From reincarnation to resurrection".

All are welcome.

PRICES OF 36 DRUGS MAY BE REDUCED

New Delhi, (UNI): The Government is considering price reduction of 36 drugs out of 117 used extensively in medical practice.

They Were Elected

South Indian cultural Association, Ottawa: Professor V. Subramaniam-President, Mrs. Vasanthi Sreenivasan (Vice-President), Dr. V. Balasubramaniam (Secretary), Dr. V.J. Lakshmanan (Treasurer), S.K. Krishnaswamy, Dr. S. Raman, Mrs. Bharati Sundaresan, Giridhar Gopal, Nagaswamy Ramaswamy and Mrs. Jaya Subramaniam are other members of the executive committee.

Punjabi Sahit Sabha, Toronto, 1967-77.

President: Tarlochan S. Gill
Vice President: Manjit Safri
Secretary: Sukhinder Singh
Treasurer: Rachhpal S. Ranla
Members of Executive: Mohinder Dahnota, Kirpal S. Dhillon, Iqbal Ellahie, Hardev Singh, Mohinder Panchi.

For membership and other information: Call 536-4737.

INDIA CANADA ASSOCIATION OTTAWA VALLEY

PRESIDENT: Jaya Subramaniam

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Subhas Chander
Dev Dasgupta
Nazru Deen
Harish Gupta
Indra Keswani
Ram K. Sahi
Sudesh Ummat
Baldev Sigh Vij
Mahendra Vyas

Civil Servants retired

New Delhi, March 21 (UNI): The Government had compulsorily retired more than 2,300 Government servants since the declaration of emergency, Deputy Home Minister F. H. Mohsin informed the Lok Sabha.

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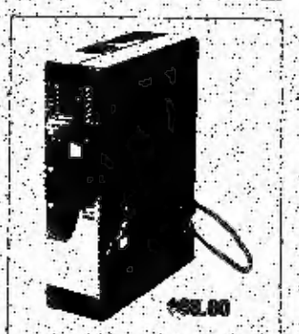

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CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Wanted suitable matches for Canadian-born and educated Saini girl 27, and Saini boy 25. Punjabi Sikh origin. Box 902, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a Punjabi girl, 28, educated in India & England. Presently working as a teacher in Canada. Professionals need apply. Box 961, The Canadian India Times.

Engineer, 31, from Srilanka seeks doctor or lady of similar profession for marriage. Doctors in India or medical students who wish to finish their studies in Canada can also apply. Box 1021, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match for a attractive Sikh girl, 24 years of old, 5 ft. 3 in., M.A. in English, and B. Ed., presently in India. Please apply with detail information to Box 1030, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a Young man, Jat-Sikh, Panjabi-background, working as an Executive with an American Company. Girls of age 24-27, of Panjabi background, should apply at: D.S.G., 2075-University, Suite 500, Montreal, Que.

Suitable match for Jain girl 22, B.A., family settled in canada, girl visiting brothers in Canada, reply box 2084 St. Catherines Ontario.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a highly educated, professional engineer, 27, currently holding an excellent job with a reputed firm in Canada. Girls' merit only consideration. Box 1035, The Canadian India Times.

Well Established handsome professional engineer seeks accomplished attractive Bengalee bride residing here or in India. Write in confidence with girl's recent photographs, age, height, complexion, education and other details to P.O. Box 661, Downsview, Ontario.

Wanted a suitable match for a Goodlooking Punjabi girl, B.A., 19 years, 5'4". Please Phone or write: 225-1184, Mrs. V. Malhotra, 920-44 Dynes Rd., Ottawa, Ontario.

Wanted a suitable match for educated Hindu boy 31, 163 cm. Teaching in Cambridge school in India. Caste no bar. Apply Box 1036 The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a Gujarati Bachelor 30 years 5' 10". Qualified Accountant settled in Toronto. Recent photo and correspondence invited from well educated girls - caste no bar. Write box 6561, Station 'A' Toronto.

Attractive, 20 year old, B.A. honours, Brahmin girl from Haryana, looking for a suitable match. Call 1-506-642-4164 after 6 P.M.

South Indian lady with secured job and owning residence in Toronto would like to meet sincere man in early thirties with broad outlook, with view to matrimony. Reply to Box 1037 The Canadian India Times.

Hindu Match for Matriculate Girl 29, 5 feet 1 inch, 108 lbs., employed in Delhi, visiting Canada. Write to Malik, 51 Nidgrove Gardens, Ottawa, Ontario, K2G 3W7.

Educated, charming girl 21, B.A. looking for North-Indian professional young man. Caste no bar. Early marriage. Box 1038, The Canadian India Times.

Match for graduate Tank-Kashatrita, smart boy of 22, working as lab. technician in Milk Factory Chandigarh (India). Intends to settle in Canada. Subcaste Rai, Mother Mukker. Post Box 1306 Station 'A' Vancouver (B.C.)

Suitable Jat Sikh match for a tall (6'7") BSc MBBS girl 25 years old, slim, beautiful, white complexion, convent educated. Belongs to repectable and educated family settled in Canada. Father retired Class. I officer. Preferably professionals (Medicine, PE or PG in medical sciences) Enclose particularts, photo and educational details. Write Box 1039 The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a good looking Punjabi Brahmin boy, 22, 5' 9½". Immediate marriage. Please write with recent photo to box no 1040, The Canadian India Times.

Match for a beautiful, highly educated Kaishtya girl, 27. Family respectable and highly connected. Box 1041, the Canadian India times.

Born to:

Shashi and Sudarshan Malik, a daughter, Meera, a sister to Manu.

Davis and Aleykutty Pulikan of Ottawa, a son.

James and Merrily George of Ottawa, a son.

Council formed

In November, 1975, the Federal Council of Indo-Canadian Associations was formed in Toronto. Fifteen Associations were present and became members. S. B. Shah, a well-known lawyer from Toronto, was elected as a chairman of the Federal Council. The Federal Council was organized to establish a link between all associations of Indian origin, to communicate freely and to make our voice strong at the Federal level.

For further information, please call R. N. Acharyya, General Secretary at 245-3960 or write to P. O. Box 275, Station 'K', Toronto, Ontario, M4P 2G5.

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Symposium on yoga

By Jane Tweddle

A yoga and psychic symposium is being held from April 17-23rd., 1976 at the Yoga Retreat at Paradise Island, Nassau, Bahamas.

This retreat is placed on 4 acres of tropical gardens alongside a beautiful beach, and is sponsored by the Sivananda Yoga Centres, founded by Swami Vishnu Devananda - a Yoga expert and author of "Complete Illustrated Book of Yoga".

Some of the people present will be: Ravi Shankar in concert, the famed psychic researcher and astronaut, Edgar Mitchell; Cleve Backster, a polygraph expert who write The Secret Life of Plants, a bestseller; and Swami Nadabrahmanananda, who is able to control involuntary functions at will (i.e., he can raise his blood pressure to 240 or survive for ½ an hour in an air tight box).

A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend this event.

Mentally a woman

"I have mentally become a woman in order to steal into her heart. I could not steal into my wife's heart until I decided to treat her differently than I used to do, and so I restored to her all her rights by dispossessing myself of all my socalled rights as her husband." Mahatma Gandhi in **Young India** in 1927.

CULTURAL TIES AMONG ASIAN COUNTRIES

Jaipur, (UNI): The seminar on cultural planning in Asia has recommended that the cultural ties among Asian countries which were cut off due to the rise of colonial empires should be restored and called on member countries to adopt programmes for bilateral agreements.

new strategy to tackle malaria being worked out

New Delhi, March 29 (UNI): A new strategy is being worked out to combat malaria the increasing incidence of which is causing concern to the Government. Union Health Minister Karan Singh told the Lok Sabha.

Dhananjayans visit N.America

The Department of Education of the State of New York has invited the leading Indian classical dance couple of India the Dhananjayans to attend the United States Biennial conference on Performing Arts Education and give a few performances to audiences in the New York State and neighbouring States. This Conference is an important event in performing art education, attended by leading ballet conductors, choreographers and dancers.

Dhananjayan and Shanta

Mr. Dhananjayan and his wife Shanta were both educated in India's leading school of performing arts, the KALAKSHETRA, Madras in both classical styles, BHARATANATYAM and KATHAKALI and later they served on its staff as leading dance teachers. Recently, they have formed their own dance academy BHARATA KALANJALI, where many Indian and some American and Canadian students (eg. ANJALI and Sandra) had their training.

They have been deputed by the Government of India to represent the country on Art festivals in Europe, East and South East Asia. After their performances in U.S.A. they will visit Canada.

In Canada, the Dhanjayans will perform (with a live orchestra) in Montreal on the 15th, in Ottawa on the 20th and in Toronto on the 24th of April. Details of these programs and all further information many be obtained from Professor Subramaniam at 231-6[illegible], Ottawa at the National Arts Centre theatre.

More Oil Found

New Delhi, (UNI): The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has struck a 71-metre thick limestone structure containing oil and gas in an off-shore field location about 70 km. west of Bassein, a Bombay suburb.

Announcing this in Parliament, Petroleum Minister K.D. Malaviya said the new discovery "would take us one more step towards the goal of self-sufficiency in oil."

A more precise estimate of the potential of this structure could have only after the well was drill up to the projected depth of 2,300 metres, he said.

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